

FISCAL NOTE

SB 2190 - HB 2347

February 4, 2002

SUMMARY OF BILL: Amends current law relative to waiver and/or deferment of tuition and fees for certain veterans and dependents of veterans as follows:

- Defines a *qualifying period of armed conflict* to include operations where the following medals are authorized:
 1. Navy Expeditionary Medal;
 2. Marine Corps Expeditionary Medal;
 3. Combat Action Ribbon (Navy, Marines, & Coast Guard);
 4. Army Combat Infantryman Badge; and
 5. All medals under present law *except* the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal and the U.S. Department of Defense Prisoner of War Medal for former Missing in Action service members.
- Allows dependents of former Missing In Action (MIA) service members to obtain the fee waiver even if the former MIA is no longer a Tennessee resident.
- Allows a student veteran classified as a resident for tuition and fee purposes under the Academic Common Market agreement, to defer payment of the required tuition and fees until the student's monetary benefits from the department or other government agency have been received. The application for deferment must be made no later than 14 days following the start of the term.
- Makes a student receiving services under federal or state vocational rehabilitation programs ineligible for a waiver of fees and tuition.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Expenditures - Not Significant

Estimate assumes any increase in the number of eligible spouses or children of veterans who would choose to attend a higher education institution who would not now be eligible for a waiver but would be as a result of the bill is relatively small. Therefore, any increase in state expenditures to offset lost tuition revenues to the schools is estimated to be not significant.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



James A. Davenport, Executive Director

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